

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

March 2001

Volume 2 Issue 3

Indiana Tower Bill Dead for This Session

from Jerry Suhrheinrich

Fellow Hams...

I received the below e-mail from Senator Antich today [2/27/01]....It speaks for itself, unfortunately. I'm at a loss as to what to do now except to keep this issue "on fire" now and for the next session, which I believe is a short session. As Sen. Antich says..."let's not give up yet.

I might suggest—if you feel so inclined—to contact Sen. Antich thanking her for her attempt. If you think of anything else, please let me know.

I deeply appreciate those of you who attended the hearing and testified. I also deeply appreciate those of you who could not attend the meeting but have had interest in this matter and contacted your senator. Let's keep doing thusly until the measure is passed!...And again, please excuse me if this e-mail is sent to some of you twice 73, Jerry W. Suhrheinrich WD9EDE

—— Original Message ——

Dear Mr. Suhrheinrich,

Senator Jim Merritt (R-Indianapolis) has just informed me that the SB 331 will not be voted on this session because Senator Connie Lawson (R-Danville) told him that the people in Avon, Indiana (part of her district) did not want it to pass. The only thing I can do at this point is to make SB 331 into an amendment and hopefully have it amended into a House Bill when we start hearing the House Bills. Please contact your colleagues for me and explain this predicament.

Thank you for all the support, let's not give up yet.

Sincerely,

Rose Ann Antich

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Never be afraid to try something new.
Remember, amateurs built the ark.
Professionals built the Titanic.

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

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Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza@arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

Deadline is the last Friday of the month.
Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!

Internet Home Pages:

Fort Wayne Radio Club:
<http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org>
ACARTS site:
<http://www.acarts.com>

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

Officers

President:

Steve Nardin
WB9ZIY 483-4039
WB9ZIY@hotmail.com

Vice President:

Tom Baker
N9TB 747-2714
kb9tfc@gte.net

Secretary:

Al Burke
WB9SSE 637-1989
woffermom@cs.com

Treasurer:

Bob Streeter
W8ST 672-9737
w8st@arrl.net

Communications

Manager:

Clint Stedge
KB9LOF 485-4067

Board of Directors

Carole Burke
WB9RUS 637-1989
Wb9rus@cs.com

Jim Pliett
K9OMA 693-9211
k9oma@netusa1.net

Wayne Bergamino
KB9OZH 482-1967
kb9ozh@aol.com

Bill Meints
N9NAI

President's Corner



Now that the pesky groundhog's prediction of six weeks more winter has just about run its course, a ham's thoughts turn to.... well antennas, of course! Since my antenna survived the winter, I've decided that it was just not big enough, and plans are being made to enlarge it. Just a word of caution here to all of us contemplating any tower work, and that is BE CAREFUL! Especially when working with older towers when the condition of the tower may seem better than it really is. SAFETY FIRST!!

Speaking of towers, I urge everyone to take a minute and check the progress of the two bills before Indiana's house and senate. Information on these can be found on our web site at: <http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org/>. Another good source of info is: <http://www.arrl.org/>. It would also be a great idea to e-mail, snail mail, or even call your local elected officials and ask for their support of these measures to ensure that amateur radio operators will be able to have effective antennas for communication.

With spring also comes the possibility of severe weather conditions. Our thanks to the National Weather Service for an excellent presentation on the finer points of spotter training, at the February joint meeting with ACARTS. Also, thanks to ACARTS for helping to secure the Turnstone facility for the meeting location, as the Good Shepherd church was booked solid for the month.

Another rite of spring is the beginning of the Fox Hunt season. Last month, I tried my very first Fox Hunt, and was immediately hooked! With an antenna that I threw together with various pieces of junk that I found in my garage, I had a blast homing in on that wily fox. Never tried fox hunting? Give it a try, and you may be hooked too! Our April meeting will be de-

voted to the sport, so make plans to be there.

Our March meeting is also a must-see event. Have you heard of the new digital low power mode, PSK31? Tom Baker, N9TB, our FWRC vice president will be doing the presentation and an actual demonstration of this exciting new mode. Since the bandwidth of this mode allows many more QSO's per Kiloherztz, I suspect we will see more like it, and perhaps even an equivalent voice mode. See you at the meeting!

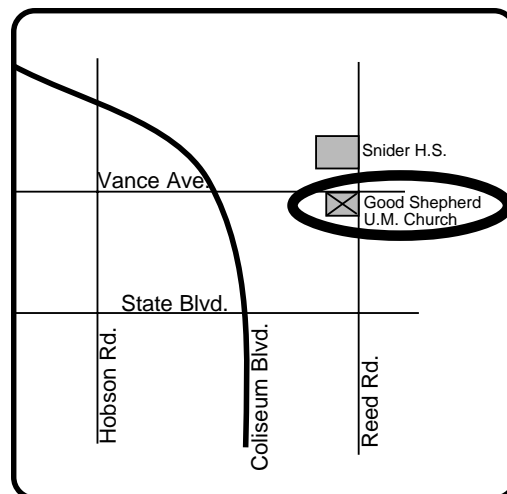
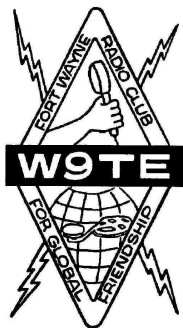
73, Steve, WB9ZIY

Mar. Meeting

Friday, Mar. 16, 2000,
7:30 PM

Good Shepherd U.M. Church
(see map below)

Program: PSK31



No minutes this month. No business meeting, just the Skywarn presentation. — Al Burke

FWRC Auction Summary

The January 2001 FWRC Auction saw a total of \$684.85 change hands.



The net club gain from the auction was \$69.80.

There were 11 sellers of equipment. There were 30 buyers of equipment. 61 people signed in to the auction.

There were donations to W9TE (Seller #1) totaling \$36 in sales.

The printed forms in the ACHN are useful for the participants to keep their own records, and should be printed for 2002. The forms will no longer be requested for club use.

The Board of Directors elected to cap the club fee to each seller at \$10.00 for the 2002 auction. This is intended to encourage the auction of high value equipment. The club will accept checks from club members at the auction to encourage high dollar purchases and reduce the need to carry large amounts of cash.

Bob, W8ST, FWRC Treasurer

QRP EME QSO Reported

from *The ARRL Letter* — A posting on the EME reflector reports that Ernie Manly, W7LHL, and Larry Liljequist, W7SZ, both in Washington, successfully completed an

**...successfully
completed an Earth-
Moon-Earth
(moonbounce)
contact February
25 while running 5
W on 1296 MHz.**

Earth-Moon-Earth (moonbounce) contact February 25 while running 5 W on 1296 MHz. "This was using the PUA43 mode with their DSP-10 transceivers and transverters," said Bob Larkin,

W7PUA. This marked their first attempt at using the 5-W level for a QSO. The DSP-10 was a QST construction project by Larkin that appeared in three parts in the September, October and November 1999 issues of QST. The antennas for the QRP contact consisted of 10 and 12-foot TVRO-type dishes. Details are available at Larkin's Web site, <http://www.proaxis.com/~boblark/dsp10.htm>.

Indiana QSO Party

Sponsored by the Land of Lakes Amateur Radio Club

Will be held 1400Z May 6th to 2300Z May 7th.

Categories: Single Operator, Multi-Operator, Club Station, VHF/UHF.

Modes: Cw and Phone.

All Stations may be worked once per mode on each band. Mobiles may be worked once per mode per Indiana county that they operate from. No Repeater Contacts.

Exchange: Indiana stations, Signal Report & County.

Non-Indiana stations: send Signal Report, State, Province, or Country.

Scoring: Phone contacts count 2 QSO points, all other modes count 3 QSO points. Indiana stations multiply QSO points by total of Indiana Counties+States+Provinces+Countries worked. Non-Indiana stations multiply the total QSO points by the number of Indiana counties worked.

Suggested Freq: Cw: 1810, 3539, 3715, 7045, 7115, 14045, 21045, 21120, 28045, 28120

Phone: 1860, 3890, 7280, 14285, 21385, 28400, 50.14, 144.215, 432.120

Awards: Certificates will be awarded for First & Second place in each category, state, province, and country.

Send logs with a SASE to Sharon Brown, 905 W. Parkway Dr., Pleasant Lk, In. 46779. You may submit logs via e-mail to sharon.l.brown@gte.net. Logs must be received by June 11th.

FORWARDED BY: Vicki Rudicel KB9OME Pres., Grant County Amateur Radio Club Chair, Indiana Radio Club Council (IRCC)



STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS Officers

President

Vic Berko, KA9LTV
(219) 747-0938
vberko@juno.com

Vice President

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH
(219) 485-6135
w9lkh@compuserve.com

Secretary

Greg Carr, KB9LDU
(219)-490-7844
carrgj@earthlink.net

Treasurer

Howard Pletcher, N9ADS
(219) 747-5252
n9ads@juno.com

ACARTS Managers

Activities
OPEN

Emergency Preparedness

Richard Andrew, KB9VAQ
(219) 373-0644
rcandrew@iquest.net

Communications

Victor Guess, WB9UZA
(219) 485-7472
wb9uza@arrl.net

Station Manager

Doug Jones, N9NNT
(219) 432-9277
djones2233@aol.com

Fundraising Manager

Jim Boyer, KB9IH
(219) 489-6700
jim.boyer@home.com

W9INX Trustee

Dave Smith, KA9FFT
(219) 493-2439

Tech Committee

Emery McClendon, KB9IBW
(219) 485-4120
kb9ibw@juno.com

President's Message



Last month's program was the annual Skywarn Training. We held it a month earlier than we have in the past so that we could be ready for the severe weather that usually starts in March. It was a joint meeting with FWRC and was well attended. I did not get a head count, but would estimate it at 50 people.

Now that you have knowledge about severe weather, I want to remind you of the do's and don't's of severe weather. Those were in the February Newsletter. Follow the repeater use guidelines, so that the repeater is not tied up with idle chatter when there is activity in the area. Remember that our repeater covers a large area and storm activity may be present in those areas, but not in Fort Wayne. When we are in an activated condition, you will hear a "WX" just before the repeater drops. Keep your transmissions short and leave a pause before you pick it up again. Don't be like some of the people in the video we saw who were watching a tornado coming towards them and thought it was cool. It is not a game. It can become very dangerous. Do not put your life in jeopardy, just so you can get on the radio to call in a report. The idea is to have many spotters to give reports from the areas where they live. Leave the storm chasing to those with more experience. Remember the reporting guidelines. Do not get on the air to report that it is starting to rain at your house just so

you can call in a report. But most important of all be careful, we do not want to read about someone becoming a silent key because of the weather.

I'll finally be able to get my Hamfest fix this month, at the Maumee Hamfest. It seems like it's been forever since our Hamfest in November. And you can't forget the granddaddy of all Hamfests in Dayton in May.

An update on my computer project: I finally got the BIOS to recognize my hard drive. It also recognized my CD-ROM. But, it only recognized 2.1 GB of my hard drive. I have to install Windows 95B or 98, because I need FAT32 to enable bigger drives. So far I got Windows to load, but on restart it would not finish setting up and I got a missing or damaged VFAT error message. I also can't switch to the CD-ROM because it shows as an invalid drive, even though it and the drivers are there. Well, it's time to go and work on my computer some more. See you next month.

The Program for the March 20, general meeting will be on the Amateur Radio Internet Gateway, and will be given by Mike Day KF9UG. If you are interested in getting started in packet radio, or how it works, put this meeting date on your calendar.

73, Vic KA9LTV

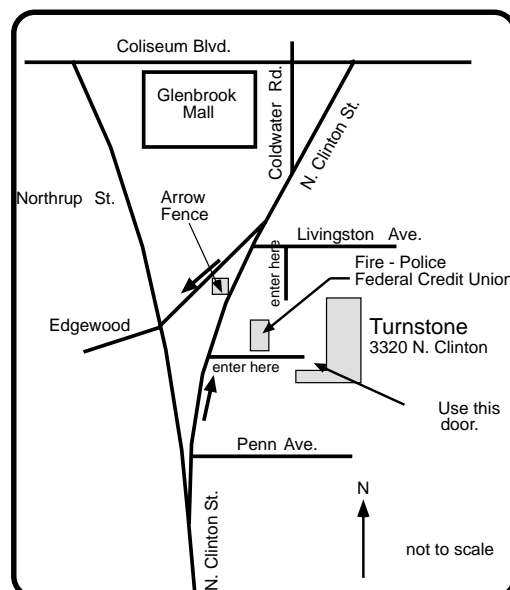
March Meeting Schedule

All meetings are at 7:30 PM at Turnstone unless otherwise noted.

Board Meeting: 03/13/01
All members are encouraged to attend.

General Meeting: Friday, 03/20/01
Program: KF9UG's Internet Gateway

Tech Committee: No March meeting



A Glimmer Of Good News For AO-40

from *The ARRL Letter* – AMSAT reports that the sun began triggering AO-40's sun sensor as the satellite emerged from Earth's shadow on orbit 147. The news has boosted ground controllers' optimism that they might be able to regain control over the satellite's spin rate and attitude sooner than had been predicted.

AMSAT-DL's Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, said this week that as soon as the sensor unit delivers good sun sensor data, controllers will be able to reduce AO-40's spin and make it easier to adjust attitude. "This also will lead to an improvement in reception of the S-Band telemetry," he said.

For the past few weeks, the AO-40 has remained in what AMSAT called "a semi-hibernation state," because the satellite's high angle has prevented the sensor from seeing the sun's light. Controllers had planned to work around the sun sensor issue by using a software routine.

Once ground controllers can get accurate AO-40 attitude data, they should be able to correctly aim AO-40's high-gain antennas for optimal reception on Earth. Ground controllers have been relying on telemetry from AO-40's S-band (2.4 GHz) downlink—the only transmitter now operating—but they are holding out hope that at least some of the satellite's other transmitters still function. Since the satellite went silent for about two weeks in December, ground controllers have had no luck hearing the 2-meter, 70-cm or 1.2 GHz transmitters using AO-40's omnidirectional antennas.

The next major step will be to bring AO-40 into an orientation where ground controllers can fire the onboard arc-jet thruster—using only gaseous ammonia and no electrical power. The test firing will allow checking out the guidance electronics and the arc-jet valves. Guelzow said the thrust of the test will be enough to lift the satellite's perigee by about 100 km.

Guelzow said plans call for optimizing the current orbit with a live arc-jet firing. He said that several independent analyses—including one done by the French space agency, CNES—confirm that the current orbit will be stable for many years—longer than the spacecraft's anticipated lifetime.

For more information, visit the AMSAT-NA Web site, <http://www.amsat.org>.

ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes

The ACARTS February Board Meeting was called to order by President Vic Berko, KA9LTV at 7:50pm.



Greg Carr, KB9LDU said that the new antennas for the club's repeaters were moved to the tower site. The tower crew has been trying to work us into their schedule for almost a year now. Hopefully the antenna work will be done soon. Also Doug Jones, N9NNT reprogrammed the time-out timer on the 146.88 machine. The machine would time-out and then stay down for a couple hours at a time. Please let Doug know if there are any additional problems with the timer.

Vic said that spring banquet will be held at Ryan's Steakhouse this year. Look for more information coming soon.

Mike Day, KF9UG made a presentation to the board about his packet/internet gateway. He will be giving a presentation about his gateway at the March General meeting. After lively roundtable discussion about the intelligence level of the club's Secretary, Howard Pletcher, N9ADS made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Boyer, KB9IH second the motion.

Respectively Submitted,

Greg Carr, KB9LDU

March ACARTS Program

From: Michael Day, KF9UG

I'll give a presentation on "Packet Radio Internet Gateways" at the March general meeting. I plan on bringing my laptop, TNC, and HT to the meeting to demonstrate how to connect to FWARig. I'll be describing how to connect via the Internet, "What an Packet Radio Internet Gateway Is", and "How does an Internet Gateway fit into the packet network - Pros and Cons".

Tech Group Meeting Info

No info for the tech group except that if possible starting in April, I will try to make an effort to get aspects of the Club station up and running. If anyone has any ideas please let me know. We will work mainly on VHF, SSB, and packet.

Thanks, kb9ibw

Amateur Radio Mounts Quick Quake Response

from *The ARRL Letter* – Hams responded within minutes after an earthquake hit the Seattle area the morning of February 28. The epicenter was some 35 miles southwest of Seattle, but the quake was felt as far away as Salt Lake City. Washington Gov Gary Locke declared a state of emergency for western Washington.

As of week's end, Amateur Radio had scaled back its response as power and telephone service returned to the

"The net was opened within minutes of the quake, and hundreds of messages were passed,"

stricken region. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) teams in the quake zone were mobilized within minutes of the event. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) and the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) also activated.

Residents in the affected region now are picking up the pieces. Damage estimates could top \$2 billion. Upwards of 350 injuries—a few of them serious enough to require hospitalization—were reported, but no deaths were directly attributed to the earthquake.

ARRL Western Washington Section Manager Harry Lewis, W7JWJ, reported that very soon after the quake struck, State RACES Officer Jim Sutton, WA7PHD, was on the air, handling net control duties for the Washington State Emergency Net on 75 meters from the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray. Western Washington Section Nets also activated on HF SSB, and in the Seattle area, ARES volunteers had mounted an emergency repeater net with King County EC Rich Hodges, KB7TBF, and Lt. Russ Reed, N7NOV, of the US Coast Guard sharing NCS chores. Several other county ARES nets took to the air.

Amateur Radio operators also set up a temporary 2-meter net to assist the Red Cross with damage assessment. An unconfirmed report says one ham used an ATV link from a helicopter to the State EOC—where Gov Locke was on hand—to survey the damage below.

While Eastern Washington was not as badly affected, Spokane County ARES/RACES activated to assist. Because the Spokane County Department of Emergency Management had trouble maintaining contact with the State EOC at Camp Murray, an auxiliary cross-state link was established via the Washington Emergency Net. "This HF link was maintained by Spokane County's off-site

Official Emergency Stations, communicating with operators at the County EOC by 2 meters," said Spokane County EC Nathan Jeffries, KI7QT, who said the action drew later praise from a County emergency official.

Eastern Washington SM Kyle Pugh, KA7CSP, said "a loose information net" also fired up on 40 meters to handle general inquiries and health-and-welfare traffic.

The Alaska Pacific Emergency Preparedness Net also took the airwaves on 20 meters (14.292 MHz). "The net was opened within minutes of the quake, and hundreds of messages were passed," said Bob Baker, NL7UH, in Anchorage, Alaska. Baker praised net participants for their "very highly professional manner. The net was formed after the 1964 Alaska earthquake, and it includes several net control stations in Alaska and in the "Lower 48."

The SATERN Net activated for about six hours on 20 meters (14.265 MHz), processing health-and-welfare information requests and handing out situation reports from Washington and Oregon amateur stations. "Scores of stations over the nation assisted in relay," said National SATERN Director Pat McPherson, WW9E. SATERN's Web site, www.go.to/satern, remains available for inquiries.

Lewis said he was "deeply impressed" by the speedy amateur response.

MultiMode 3.9.0 Now Available

from *VersionTracker* – MultiMode allows your Macintosh to decode and transmit several different modes of non-voice communication often heard on shortwave and ham radio. It is the only program of its kind for the Macintosh, rivaling commercial packages for the PC platform costing hundreds of dollars. It is ideal for amateur radio operators, shortwave radio listeners, and other radio enthusiasts. MultiMode is localized for Dutch, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, in addition to English. MultiMode allows you to decode and display morse code, RTTY, FAX, SSTV, ACARS, and many other modes on your Mac, without any extra hardware. MultiMode now also allows you to transmit in most of the modes of operation. In the past, dedicated hardware, often costing hundreds or thousands of dollars, was necessary to demodulate and decode these transmissions. Today, you can use the processing power of your Macintosh to decode and display these modes, without any hardware. Just connect your radio's speaker output to your Mac's microphone input, and you're ready to go.

<http://www.versiontracker.com/moreinfo.fcgi?id=3051>

LF-TO-LF Transatlantic Amateur Contact Is History

from *The ARRL Letter* – Amateur Radio history was made this month when amateurs in Canada and the UK completed what appears to be the first two-way transatlantic Amateur Radio exchange on 136 kHz. Larry Kayser, VA3LK, and Lawrence “Laurie” Mayhead, G3AQC, managed the LF feat using extremely slow CW that featured 90-second-long dits and 180-second-long dahs. The two-way contact took two weeks to complete.

“We are the first to do a two-way QSO on LF across the North Atlantic as far as I am concerned,” Kayser said. “We are the ones who put the stakes in the ground; others will build on what we have done.”

The VA3LK-G3AQC contact began February 5 and was completed February 19 with the reception and confirmation of VA3LK’s report by G3AQC. Kayser said the participants agreed in advance to a “firewall” between them for the duration of the contact and that all QSO information was exchanged over the LF radio link.

Mayhead said it was clear from the outset that, because of the relatively short band openings, he and Kayser would have to spread the contact out over several days. “It was not easy,” he said. “I stayed up late most nights—3 AM on one occasion—changed blown fuses in my transmitter six times, and reconfigured my receiver to include a narrow filter because of interference that was desensitizing it.” Kayser says he once had to climb the tower supporting his wire antenna in total darkness.

The UK has authorized amateur operation on 136 kHz, with special authorization and strict limits on radiated power. While Canada has not yet authorized general Amateur Radio operation on 136 kHz, Kayser and a few other Canadian amateurs have received special authorization to experiment there.

Reception of weak LF signals typically is done using spectrographic software like ARGO or Spectran. Signals are transmitted using dual-frequency CW—or DFCW—or very slow-speed CW, also known as “QRSS.” Using their particular brand of QRSS, Kayser calculated that it took nearly 70 minutes for him to send his call sign. “Certainly the information rate will improve,” he said. “We did the best we could with what we had to work with over the last two weeks.”

G3AQC and VA3LK were using a combination of commercial and surplus equipment at their respective stations. G3AQC estimated his effective radiated power at 350 mW, while VA3LK said he might have been at the 5 W ERP level.

In October 1998, the ARRL petitioned the FCC to create two amateur LF allocations at 135.7-137.8 kHz and 160-190 kHz. The FCC has not yet acted on the request.

Hiking Hams Claim Pedestrian Mobile Distance Record

from *The ARRL Letter* – Bonnie Crystal, KQ6XA, of San Mateo, California, and Max Pompe, ZL1BK, of Auckland, New Zealand, are claiming the record for the longest direct-path, pedestrian-to-pedestrian Amateur Radio contact. The two worked each other February 18 on 10 meters using compact SSB transceivers and homemade antennas.

**California to
Auckland, New
Zealand, direct-
path, pedestrian-
to-pedestrian
Amateur Radio
contact**

On the New Zealand end, ZL1BK used a 1.8-meter (5 feet 11 inches) homebrew telescopic whip mounted on his Yaesu FT-817 running 5 W. Crystal had a 6-meter (19 feet 8 inches) fishing pole strapped to an aluminum pack frame and ran 20 W using a Vertex/Standard VX-1200 HF Manpack transceiver, a radio that’s not marketed in the US. “Both of us used 3-meter insulated-wire dragging counterpoises,” said Crystal.

The 6500-mile contact began on 15 meters but ended on 10, because conditions were better there for that path. “Other stations in the HFpack group here in the US had been trying to make a go of it, but we just lucked out,” Crystal said.

For his part, ZL1BK said, “I still can hardly believe we did it, but the Pacific gods smiles on us as we rode the airwaves today.”

The HFpack Web site has more information at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hfpack/>. More information on Bonnie Crystal, KQ6XA, is available on her Web site, <http://www.qsl.net/kq6xa/>.

D68C DXpedition At 126,000 Qs and Counting

from *The ARRL Letter* – The D68C DXpedition to Comoros reports logging more than 4650 QSOs in the recent ARRL International DX Contest (CW), probably topping the current the Africa multi-two record by a significant margin. D68C has been active on 30, 17 and 12 meters as well as on 14 and 28 MHz RTTY and PSK31. The D68C will not do any satellite operation, as originally planned. The team reports occasional high noise levels on the lower bands. “We are working all we can hear. Sometimes it is really hard to hear anything at all with all the static,” said John Linford, G3WGV. As of February 20, the team had 126,000 QSOs in the log, and Linford said he anticipates when all is said and done, the D68C operation will hold several new records, including total number of QSOs.—John Linford, G3WGV



For Sale

- Tower, Beam, & Rotor
Tower, 30 ft. TV tower with gable bracket and fold-over base.
Hy Gain TH3-MK3 tri-band beam.
All SS hardware and 1:1 balun.
CDE Ham III rotor, control box and approx. 100ft. control cable

I can supply all manuals. System works great (got WAC with it)
\$275. 00 and you take it down.

- 6 ft. relay rack, blue-gray with good castors, nice condition, also nice desk cabinet with 8 inch panel, roll your own linear. \$30.00 for both.

- 8 ft. Work bench, two pedestals with four drawers in each. Battleship linoleum top. Built for ITT and sold as surplus when EOPD Div. closed. \$30.00

Francis H. Barr
10431 Brandywine Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46845
(219)637-6479



- ICOM IC-Q7A mini-HT 2 m/440 with speakermike adapter and MJF dual band antenna. Excellent condition. \$130. Gary N9IJB (219) 627-0334 or E-mail rrradioman@fwi.com



- COMPUTER for SALE - Gateway 2000 4DX2-50 (486 processor) \$75, including: Windows 3.1,

Microsoft Office and more. 15" color monitor, Canon BJ200C inkjet printer, Keyboard, Mouse, cables, manuals. Great for Word Processing and School / Office work. (no modem no internet)
Tim ND9T 485-9651 tkearney@alumni.nd.edu



- Ameritron AL811 / 600 watt linear Amp 160 to 10 meters \$450.00 Mint Condition
- ATR-15 Ameritron 1500 Watt Tuner w/peak reading Meter \$200.00

Can not use that much power - moved to a Villa just north west of WallMart in Decatur. - Having fun using qrp cw on 10 thru 40 meters.

Contact: Terry Hammons, W9CSL, 219-724-2081, w9csl@yahoo.com

NOTE: For Sale & Wanted items will be listed for 2 months only unless the ad is resubmitted. If you sell an item the first month, please contact the editor so the item can be removed.



Regional Hamfests

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Phone</u>	<u>URL or E-mail</u>
17 Mar 2001	Marshall, MI	616-963-6602	
18 Mar 2001	Maumee, OH	419-385-5056	http://www.tmrahamradio.org
25 Mar 2001	Grayslake, IL	847-291-4160	http://www.ns9rc.org
7 Apr 2001	Columbus, IN	812-342-4670	carc_in@yahoo.com
18-20 May 2001	Dayton, OH	937-276-6930	http://www.hamvention.org/
10 Jun 2001	Wheaton, IL	630-963-4922	http://www.cyberconnect.com/orion/smcc.html
7 Jul 2001	Indianapolis, IN	317-257-4050	http://www.indyhamfest.com
22 Jul 2001	Van Wert, OH	419-238-2442 X324	http://www.redrival.com/w8fy

Note: If anyone knows the date for the Wabash, IN hamfest please e-mail the editor. So far they are unlisted.

For more complete information go to <http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm>.

VEC Schedule

24-Mar-2001

Sponsor: VAN WERT VE GROUP
 Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: ROBERT E HIGH (419)795-5763
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: EMA BLDG 1220 EAST RIDGE RD
 PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED
 VAN WERT, OH 45891

31-Mar-2001

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC — WHITLEY COUNTY ARC
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER (219)691-3009
 VEC: W5YI VEC
 Location: WHITLEY COUNTY JAIL
 BASEMENT MEETING ROOM 101 W MARKET ST -
 SUITE C
 N9QCL@ARRL.NET
 COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

12-Apr-2001

Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: LYLE L LONG (219)875-8455
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER
 HOMAN BUILDING
 GREENCROFT BLVD
 GOSHEN, IN 46525

28-Apr-2001

Sponsor: VAN WERT VE GROUP
 Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: ROBERT E HIGH (419)795-5763
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: EMA BLDG 1220 EAST RIDGE RD
 PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED
 VAN WERT, OH 45891

05-May-2001

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: WILLIAM C HALL (219)485-3995
 VEC: W5YI VEC
 Location: ALLEN COUNTY LIBRARY
 GEORGETOWN BRANCH 6600 E STATE BLVD
 COMMUNITY ROOM
 FORT WAYNE, IN 46815

26-May-2001

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC — WHITLEY COUNTY ARC
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER (219)691-3009
 VEC: W5YI VEC
 Location: WHITLEY COUNTY JAIL
 BASEMENT MEETING ROOM 101 W MARKET ST -
 SUITE C
 N9QCL@ARRL.NET
 COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

26-May-2001

Sponsor: VAN WERT VE GROUP
 Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: ROBERT E HIGH (419)795-5763
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: EMA BLDG 1220 EAST RIDGE RD
 PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED
 VAN WERT, OH 45891



WWV Survey Planned



from *The ARRL Letter* – The National Institute of Standards and Technology plans to survey users of WWV and WWVH later this year. The time and frequency-standard stations have been airing occasional announcements about the upcoming poll in order to start building a mailing list of survey recipients. The announcements state that NIST “is seeking information on how listeners use the broadcast services offered on the WWV broadcast,” but the survey will not begin for at least several weeks.

WWV Station Manager John Lowe says the announcements are being broadcast now as a heads up and to encourage early mailing list signups. The survey itself will not be released until approved by the Office of Management and Budget, Lowe said, and he doesn’t expect that to happen until May, although it could be sooner. The survey period likely would extend through the summer, he said.

According to Lowe, the last WWV-WWVH user survey was done in 1985. “We just don’t know who our user base is anymore,” he said. Lowe confirmed that the data collected ultimately could be used to determine whether WWV and WWVH remain on the air—especially given the popularity of NIST’s other outlets, including its Web-based time server that gets in excess of 3 million hits a day.

“If we get only two people who say they’re using WWV, then we’ve got a problem,” he said. Lowe added that he does not think WWV and WWVH will be shut down, and he vowed to “fight for the radio stations,” if it came down to that. “But the ultimate decision is not in my hands,” he said. “We have to look at our budget and our users.”

Lowe strongly encouraged WWV users to get on the mailing list and to send in a survey when the time comes. He suggested, however, that more weight will be given to survey responses from corporate and institutional users of the radio service as opposed to individual users.

To be added to the NIST WWV-WWVH survey mailing list, send your name and postal address to the NIST Radio Station WWV, 2000 E County Road 58, Ft Collins, CO 80524, or e-mail the information to nist.radio@boulder.nist.gov. Lowe urged WWV-WWVH users to hold their fire until the survey begins.

WWV in Ft Collins, Colorado, and WWVH on Kauai, Hawaii, broadcast continuous time and frequency information to millions of listeners worldwide. For more information, visit the NIST Web site, <http://www.nist.gov>.



Severe Weather Notes

from Joel, KB9RH

Thanks to all who attended this year's severe weather training session, and a special "Thank You" to Fort Wayne Radio Club for hosting the event. Also thanks to Kevin Barjenbruch from the National Weather Service for coming in on a Friday evening to conduct the training.

ing.

With the severe weather season fast approaching, here's a pop quiz to see how much you remember from the training session. How many questions can you answer correctly?

1. A thunderstorm is approaching, and you would estimate it is 3 or 4 miles away. As you look up, you see an overshooting top, which is an indication that this storm has a very strong updraft and therefore the potential of becoming severe. What is wrong with this scenario?

2. Our area of the country has the highest frequency of which of the following severe weather events?

- a. Tornadoes
- b. Downbursts
- c. Large hail
- d. Flash Flooding

3. In an average year, which of the following kills more people?

- a. Tornadoes
- b. Hurricanes
- c. Flash Floods
- d. Lightning

4. You are observing a shelf cloud. Should you be concerned? If so, why? If not, why not?

5. Concerning suspected Funnel Clouds and Wall Clouds: "If it doesn't spin..."

6. What is the "1/2-Way-Down" rule?

7. Why does the Weather Service ask us not to use the term "Marble-Size" when reporting hail?

8. As you look off into the distance, you see a thunderstorm that has a distinctly fuzzy appearance. What does this mean?

9. Why do we no longer report lightning?

10. The primary repeater for Skywarn activity is? The backup is?

Here are the answers:

1. The thunderstorm is too close for you to see an overshooting top. At a distance of 3 or 4 miles you would look for low-level storm clues such as a shelf cloud, rain-free base, or wall cloud. You could observe an overshooting top if the storm were 30 or 40 miles away, but not 3 or 4.

2. The correct answer is b: Downbursts.

3. The correct answer is d: Lightning. This is one reason I remove the 5/8 wave antenna from the top of my Jeep when I'm storm spotting (what a great lightning rod!).

4. You should be very concerned. A shelf cloud is an indication of a strong downdraft at the leading edge of the storm. Winds beneath a shelf cloud have the potential of reaching severe levels (and quite often they do).

5. ...Don't call it in!"

6. When the visible funnel reaches more than halfway down to the ground, look for a possible debris cloud at the surface. The funnel may actually have touched down, but has not picked up enough dust and debris to become visible.

7. Marbles come in many different sizes. When reporting hail, use a specific size (1/2 inch, 3/4 inch, etc.) or better yet, use the size of a coin. This will eliminate any possible confusion as to the size of hail you are reporting.

8. The storm has a weak updraft and probably will not become severe.

9. Research has shown that the type and frequency of lightning are not related to the severity of a thunderstorm.

10. Primary is 146.88. Backup is 146.76.

How did you do? If you missed more than two questions, you get an "F". These are questions any trained spotter should be able to answer. If you missed more than two questions, you need to go back and review your spotter's guide and any notes you may have taken. The main reason for this: your own personal safety.

Joel, KB9RH

Membership Application for ☐ FWRC - or - ☐ ACARTS (check one)

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____ -⁴ Phone #: (____) _____ - _____ Unlisted? ☐ Yes

Email address: _____ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$15.00 / year

Family membership ¹ ☐ \$21.00 / year

Student membership ² ☐ \$6.00 / year

Associate membership ³ ☐ \$15.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$12.00 / year

Additional family members ¹ ☐ \$6.00 / year

Student membership ² ☐ \$6.00 / year

Associate membership ³ ☐ \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. unlicensed member

4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

Fort Wayne Radio Club
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

A.C.A.R.T.S.
PO Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club.

ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority

443.800 (+) General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

145.010 (s) General use, NETROM (FWA) - wide

223.660 (s) BBS use ONLY NETROM (FWA220) - wide

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice: 146.76 (-) General use; (2 sec. initial keyup delay)

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch

146.91 (-) Autopatch only

444.875 (+) General use

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

IMO: meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. (2330 UTC) on 146.88

Area Traffic Nets - Continued

Auburn: meets Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur., Fri., & Sat. at 6 p.m. (2300 UTC) on 147.015+

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 147.150

Miscellaneous Nets

Huntington ARES: Sat/Tues at 8:00 p.m. (0100 UTC) on 146.685

Portside: 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. (0030 UTC) on 444.300

Whitley Co. / ARES: Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. (0015 UTC) on 145.270
(Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 7:45 p.m. (0045 UTC) on 444.550
+. (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)

Sloppy Code Net: Sundays at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 40M (7.1405 MHz). This CW net's purpose is to build confidence and help increase code speed. The speed is generally 1-10 WPM. If you want to copy only contact Henry, KA9ZNN at 749-8968 for details..

Six Meter AM net (informal): Every Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. on 50.580 MHz. Intercom on 146.430 simplex.